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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by the Reverend H. Kenneth Dutille, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Bath, ME.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, the Reverend H. Kenneth Dutille, offered the following prayer:

Today, Lord, we praise You that You hold our whole Earth in Your mighty hands. We thank You that the Sun, the Moon, and the stars are preserved by Your mighty power. We are so indebted to You because You have given Your prescription for perfect peace in providing help when we go through periods of problems, pain, and perplexities. Sometimes our country looks like a puzzle, and we do not know what path to pursue. One group promotes what they believe is truth, while another group believes they have the perfect plan. We pray that all people in our great diverse Nation will look to the Deity. Bind us together with a pattern of fibers that will make a complete puzzle with a greater potential.

Encourage each of us when we are discouraged, give us confidence when in doubt, boldness when we are fearful, and strength when we are spent.

I pray that we may have a clear and crisp vision of Your plans, and give us the honor, integrity, and uprightness to carry those plans forward. Let the mighty power of God become our power in all we do this day.

We entrust this day to our Lord who is the Light of the World. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator DOLE, is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Let me announce to my colleagues we have morning business until the hour of 2 p.m. today, and then at 2 p.m. there will be a cloture vote on the substitute amendment to H.R. 927, the Cuba sanctions bill. Yesterday's vote was 59 to 36. It is our hope that we can invoke cloture today. This will be the third effort. And if we do, we will continue consideration of the bill until disposed of. Second-degree amendments to the substitute amendment may be filed up until 1 p.m. today.

If cloture is not invoked, the Senate may turn to any of the following items: NASA authorization, which I understand is not controversial. We are close to having some consent agreement on that.

Amtrak authorization, which may be referred to the Finance Committee because it has some tax provisions. Hopefully, if it is referred, it can be done on a limited basis so it would come back here within 2 or 3 weeks.

Labor, HHS appropriations. We have been precluded from bringing that bill to the floor. It is my hope that Senators SPECTER and HARKIN, the managers of the bill, can get together to see if they cannot work out some agreement so we can pass Labor, HHS appropriations. Senator COCHRAN will be working on that as sort of the expediter of the appropriations bills. This is the last appropriations bill to leave the Senate, and we are locked up over a number of provisions dealing with abortion, others dealing with striker replacement. It is my hope we can resolve some of those issues, bring it to the floor, have the votes, and go to conference.

State Department reorganization. Hopefully, they are about to reach an agreement between Senator KERRY of

Massachusetts and Senator HELMS, the chairman of the committee. It was our hope that we could have disposed of this matter by now. And I know there was a meeting yesterday. I hope we can follow up and maybe dispose of that today, and any available conference reports.

I might ask the Senator from Mississippi, are there any additional conference reports that may be coming to the floor on appropriations bills?

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, if the distinguished Senator will yield, the Transportation appropriations conference is one that has been the subject of some hard work. Our chairman of the full committee, Senator HATFIELD, is chairman of that subcommittee here, and we are hopeful that that bill will come to the floor in the form of a conference report soon.

Energy and water is another where we are hopeful that differences can be resolved between the House and Senate at an early date and we can get that conference report before the body.

Mr. DOLE. And the Agriculture appropriations bill has gone to the President?

Mr. COCHRAN. It has gone to the President. We are happy that the Senate acted favorably on the report. So did the House. And that bill is now on its way to the President. We hope he will sign it. All indications are that he will. The Secretary of Agriculture indicated that was his strong recommendation. Others in the administration have likewise indicated they think the President will sign the bill.

Mr. DOLE. I thank the Senator, my colleague.

MEASURES PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 1322 AND S. 1328

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk that are due for their second reading.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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